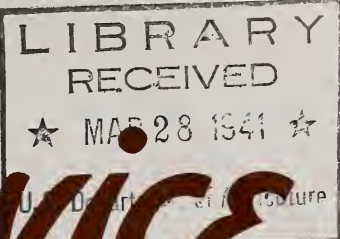


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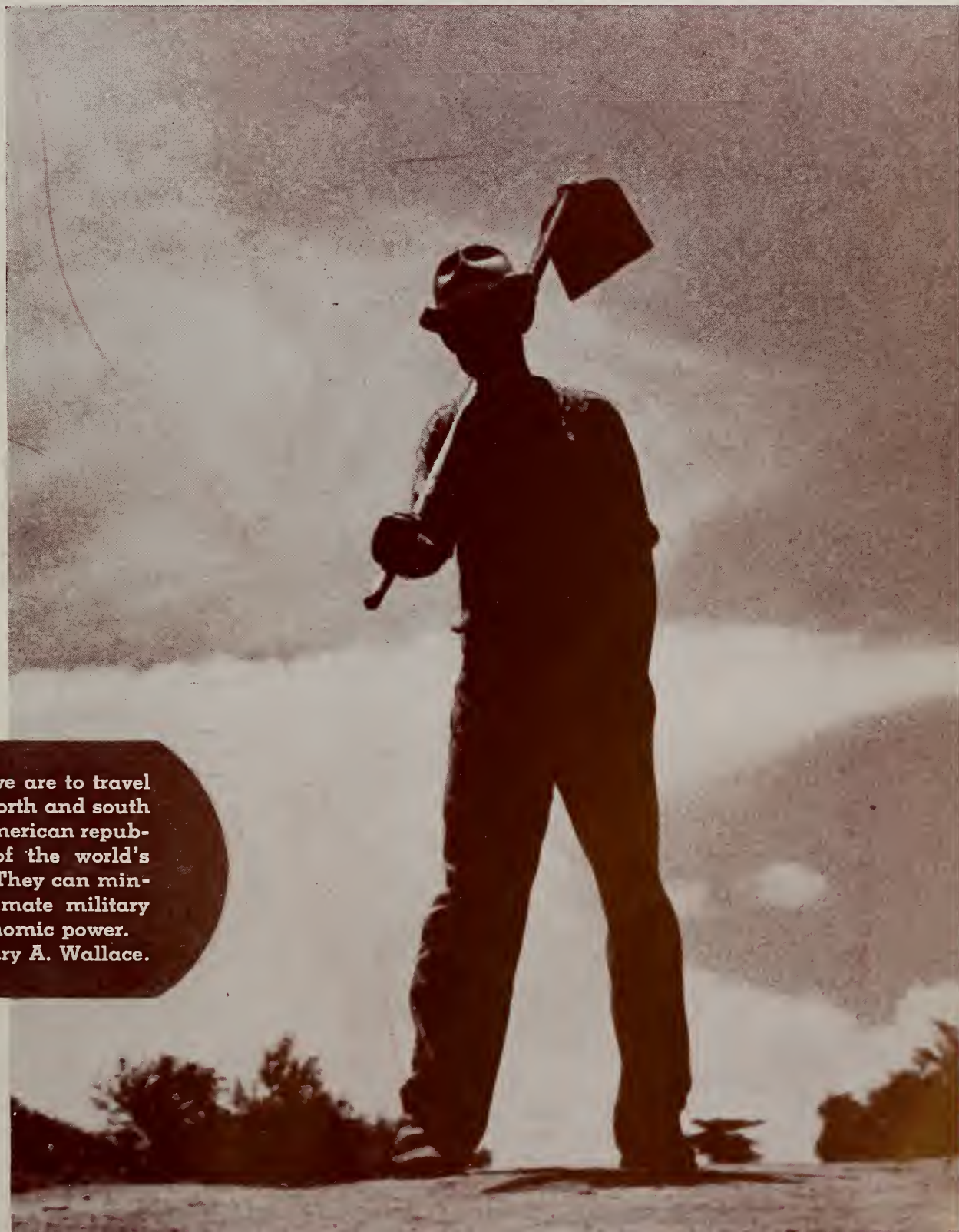
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Extension Service REVIEW

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The road of Destiny which we are to travel in the future seems to point north and south among the Americas. The American republics control a large share of the world's supply of foods and fibers. They can minimize the possibility of ultimate military attack if they unify their economic power.

—Henry A. Wallace.



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EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. • M. L. WILSON, Director • REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

Agriculture—the Backbone of the Americas

■ Agriculture plays such a vital role in the economics of all the countries of the Western Hemisphere, especially those of Latin America, that it must be considered in any plans for hemispheric solidarity. Effective inter-American cooperation depends upon expansion of Latin-American trade. This expansion in turn depends upon the development of Latin-American products which are needed in the United States.

A look at the map shows that the farm products grown in Latin America might be divided into those tropical products not grown in the United States and for which there is a market in this country and those grown in the temperate zone which are competitive.

Three of the 20 Latin-American nations (Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile) lie wholly or mainly within the temperate zone while 17 are for the most part tropical or semi-tropical. Yet a considerable part of the agricultural production of Latin America consists of temperate zone products. The reason can be found in the vast tropical jungles of the Amazon basin which occupies a large part of the entire continent of South America. This immense area of potential resources is now undeveloped. Here lies a great opportunity for inter-American cooperation.

Tropical Crops We Need

Products which we now have to import which could be grown in the tropical areas of South and Central America number more than a hundred and range alphabetically from Aloes to Zapotes.

Rubber is the most important of these products and can be grown in 15 Latin-American countries extending all the way from southern Mexico to northern Bolivia. Our requirement of possibly 700,000 tons for this year could be grown in one of the smallest tropical republics, such as Ecuador or Costa Rica. The Government has gone to work on the problem, as described in this number by rubber experts recently returned from Latin America.

Another valuable product needed in this country is abaca, or Manila hemp. Through the efforts of the Department 2,000 acres are being grown in Panama and next year will see a considerable expansion. Quinine is a drug of great importance in the United States. Recently Bolivia has been extracting some of the quinine alkaloid from the bark of the Cinchona tree, a native of the Western Hemisphere. Commercial plantings have been made in Guatemala.

Rotenone-bearing crops common in the tropics offer great possibilities for insecticidal purposes. South American Indians have for centuries used the product of the barbasco plant to kill fish, but its commercial importance as an insecticide was not appreciated until in recent years it was observed that the fish were eaten without any bad effects to the Indians. As an insecticide it provides a solution to the spray-residue problem presented by lead arsenate, particularly in the spraying of vegetables. Importations have increased from 2,000,000 pounds in 1936 to 7,000,000 pounds in 1940. The fact that farmers in the United States each year use more than \$100,000,000 worth of insecticides affords some idea of the possibilities in this crop.

Can Use 15 Times More

In 1939 the total United States imports of crude rubber, cinchona bark, abaco, kapok, rotenone-bearing roots, crude and refined camphor, tea, and cocoa approximated \$235,000,000. Imports of these commodities from Latin America which can produce all of them supplies only \$15,000,000 of the total.

Some steps have been taken to develop this potential trade. Agricultural scientists and experts are being lent to Latin America. Atherton Lee, director of the agricultural experiment station in Puerto Rico, and T. A. Fennell of the Department served as agricultural advisers to the Haitian government for the last 2 years. Their work has resulted in a number of practical recommendations such as the introduction of some of the tropi-

cal crops, an increased development of bananas, reforestation and conservation.

Two important agricultural surveys were made last year in Ecuador and Colombia by Atherton Lee, C. L. Luedtke, and Dr. E. N. Bressman. The work in Ecuador resulted in a request from that government for a loan to develop agricultural research leading to the increased production of tropical agricultural crops. A \$50,000 loan for this activity has been granted by the Export-Import Bank.

Cooperative efforts in controlling plant and animal pests have been under way for some time. For instance, the United States Department of Agriculture and the Mexican Department of Agriculture have been working together to find ways of controlling the pink bollworm.

One obstacle in the way of further development of tropical agriculture is the lack of scientists trained in the tropical conditions. An Institute of Tropical Agriculture has been proposed to meet this need. Such an institute would provide a place where research could be conducted under suitable tropical conditions, would train scientific personnel for the long-time task of developing tropical agricultural production, and would bring together students in agricultural sciences and strengthen cultural relations. It is proposed to establish the institute with private funds in a Latin American republic with Department cooperation in lending technical specialists, and in maintenance.

Among the important commodities grown in the Americas are some which are grown in quantities far in excess of requirements.

The recent coffee agreement worked out with 15 American countries offers one approach to this problem. Coffee, a troublesome surplus crop, is peculiarly important to this hemisphere as it is exported by more countries than any other single crop. The United States takes over 90 percent of this trade. The agreement calls for quotas for each country beginning last October. One interesting feature of this agreement is the inclusion of a consumer nation, the United States, which produces no coffee itself.

South America Welcomes Rubber Experts

■ Traveling by airplane, steamship, gunboat, railroad scooters, muleback, and sometimes on foot, the first of four parties sent out by the Department of Agriculture to survey the possibilities of growing rubber in Latin America has completed its work and returned to Washington.

The party, led by Dr. E. C. Stakman, Chief of the Division of Plant Pathology and Botany at the University of Minnesota and agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, surveyed an area which covers roughly the headwaters of the Amazon tributaries east of the Andes in Peru, and an area west of the Andes in Ecuador and Colombia. Other members of the party were E. M. Blair, rubber technologist; M. M. Striker, soils specialist of the Bureau of Plant Industry; and A. F. Skutch, botanist. The group left last August.

My first question to Dr. Stakman was this: "How do the people you talked with feel about the United States?" His response was immediate and enthusiastic. "They are very friendly, and I talked with all classes, from the highest to the lowest. I don't see how anyone could have been more helpful to our party, and you can quote me on that. The Peruvian Government even turned over to us one of its river gunboats, and when we reached shallow water they had motorboats waiting to take us farther upstream. They provided guides, photographers, tree climbers, and general helpers. These people believe in Pan-American solidarity, but most of them realize that any lasting spirit of cooperation must be based on the mutual exchange of goods between North and South America. Exchange of salutes and felicitations is not enough."

Dr. Stakman and his associates had two objectives in mind, he told me. One was to discover likely looking locations for nurseries where Hevea seedlings could be propagated on a large scale. These seedlings will be used as rootstocks on which to multiply the superior strains of Hevea assembled by the Department from various sources, including the Orient. The other was to collect seeds and budwood from the wild rubber trees that might have potential value in the countries where they were collected. Incidentally, the rubber tree is budded or grafted in the same way as peach or apple trees.

Four locations were selected for nurseries—two in Peru, one in Colombia and one in Ecuador. These nurseries will become part of a chain extending throughout the tropical areas of Central and South America, and all countries participating in the program will share the superior strains already developed.

Perhaps right here is a good place to backtrack a bit and explain that the Stakman party is one of four groups sent out last summer on similar missions. The others are in Central and South America now and will be coming back within the next month. These parties are the advance guard of a move to determine the feasibility of establishing commercial sources for rubber in the Western Hemisphere. When all of the parties have returned and filed their reports the main show will begin. Then the headquarters office, under the direction of Dr. E. W. Brandes, who is head of the Sugar Plants Division and the special rubber project in the Bureau of Plant Industry and an authority on tropical agriculture, will decide on locations for at least two large experimental stations in Latin America. At these stations problems of breeding, culture, and disease control will be tackled.

You will recall that the rubber investigation was authorized by Congress last July and \$500,000 was appropriated at that time. The Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, under the direction of Dr. E. N. Bressman, is charged with the responsibility of coordinating the rubber work of the Department and also of other Federal executive departments and agencies. From the start the work has been conducted in cooperation with the Latin American republics that have suitable soil and climate for growing the rubber tree.

Results of the rubber survey and experimental work that follows will be available

The first rubber survey party to return to Washington found a cooperative spirit among the South Americans as well as excellent prospects for rubber, according to Ernest G. Moore, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, who interviewed the returning scientists for the REVIEW.

to any cooperating tropical American republic, and to both large and small growers. Rubber is a crop that may be produced profitably by either large or small growers if conditions of soil, climate, and labor are right, and, if high-yielding, disease-free trees are planted. The rubber tree may be grown in any warm climate with a rainfall of at least 70 inches, well-distributed through the year. It thrives in a wide range of soils, and after it has reached an age of 7 to 10 years may be tapped every few days for years without apparent damage to the tree.

Dr. Brandes and his associates believe that high-yielding strains of rubber now in the Americas will offset any labor advantage of the Far East, which is handicapped by an industry built upon low-yielding, seedling strains. Seedling trees average only about 300 pounds per acre. Good budded strains yield several times as much.

Rubber trees in tropical America are subject to the South American leaf disease, but there are high-yielding varieties that now appear to be sufficiently resistant to give promise of reducing the seriousness of this factor. These high-yielding, disease-resistant strains of rubber trees will be propa-

The four rubber experts recently returned from South America point out the areas where expansion of the rubber industry is feasible. From left to right: A. F. Skutch, Dr. E. C. Stakman, M. M. Striker, and E. M. Blair.



gated and distributed from the experimental stations.

Under average conditions, it is estimated that large areas of the Americas could be in rubber production within 10 years. Much depends upon the survey and upon research to follow. If large areas are put into rubber production under the right conditions, increased production will be rapid. Rubber specialists say there are millions of acres in tropical America as well adapted to growing rubber as the 8,000,000 acres now in rubber in the Eastern Hemisphere.

This latest move to enable the Americas to supply a large part of their rubber needs is hastened by present international uncertainties. Although the United States uses more than half the annual world production of rubber, and has used as much as 80 percent, little of it is produced in the Western Hemisphere. The plantations of the Orient furnish about 97 percent of the world's rubber now, although as late as 1913 the tropical Americas furnished approximately half the world's rubber. Then "plantation" rubber from the Eastern Hemisphere began crowding out the "wild" rubber from the western world because of the advantages of cultivation and cheaper labor.

Although the Hevea rubber tree is a native

of tropical America and is the original source of the world's cultivated rubber, the Americas produced only about 20,000 tons last year. Consumption of crude rubber in the United States last year was nearly 600,000 tons, more than half of which was used by the automobile industry.

Dr. Stakman and the others in his party have come back with a definite conviction that rubber can again become an important commercial crop in some areas of the countries they visited, provided there is sustained commercial and scientific cooperation. Incidentally, Dr. Stakman has been pretty close to the rubber business for the last 10 or 12 years. He has served as consultant on research for the Firestone plantations in Liberia, and has visited all the important rubber-growing areas of the world. Blair is a rubber technologist, formerly supervisor of field work on plantations of the United States Rubber Co. in Sumatra. Striker is a soils specialist, now in the Department. He has made soil surveys and land use studies in the Tropics, including Puerto Rico. Skutch is a botanist, who has spent the last 12 years in Central America, and is an authority on the vegetation of that region. Those in the other survey parties have had similar experience.

Iowa Sings With Latin America

■ This year rural Iowa is singing with their Latin-American neighbors.

About 89,000 members of home economics clubs and 12,401 4-H Club girls are studying "Musical Moments from Latin America." No club meeting is held without music study—listening to recorded numbers, singing, and folk-dancing. Boys' clubs arrange music programs for at least two meetings. Yes, it's Latin-American year in Iowa with tunes, traditions and customs from south of the border to Cape Horn. The music of a people is one of its languages. It tells the story of customs, work, play, attitudes, hopes, and ideals. Right now, in 1941, we want to know those things about our Latin-American neighbors. Because, when you know a people well, it is the same as with a person. You know what they are thinking, and why they think that way.

Whole histories of nations are written in their music. The farm folk of Iowa are getting some of that history with their music—no superficiality is their music study. When they sing a song, they know the story behind the music and the words.

This year's study bulletin of 30 pages has a map of Latin-American countries on the inside cover page. In the introduction, rural Iowans read some geography, as well as history that goes back to the Mayas, long be-

fore Cortés. They understand the country better when they see how Spanish and Portuguese and other European civilizations mingled with native Indians and the imported Negro slaves.

The first number delves into ancient Indian civilization for a chant traditional with the planting of corn. It is a long text sung to one short melody repeated over and over. With it comes an explanation of the discovery of maize in Latin America and the myths of its origin. When she is walking between young corn rows some bright June morning, the farm woman will hear the echo of the Indian woman's chant in her ritual of planting—"Footprints I make: The soil lies mellowed. Footprints I make: The little hills stand in rows . . ." She will feel the centuries of an ancient culture behind the year's corn crop.

Songs and listening numbers come in pairs; so also there is a listening number recorded by the Boston orchestra: La Golondrina, an immigrant song-child from Spain and the Home, Sweet Home song of Mexico. "Listening" numbers are just that—girls and women become so thoroughly familiar with the music, that they recognize it even in music-recognition tests given at the end of the year.

Flowing River, a Chilean folk song adapted to group singing, is accompanied by a description of the long, narrow "shoestring" republic—its weather, its products, its people, and their patriotism. With it comes the recorded music and words of Buy My Tortillas.

Palapala, the cowboy song of Argentina, opens up the subject of the vast pampas, from which Argentine beef and hides are exchanged for United States tractors and automobiles. And the traditional Indian song of Peru, Yaravie, in all its slow tragedy brings an understanding of the courage and cruelty in the heritage of the strangely blended life of the people.

After the first six meetings, two monthly periods are given over to review for the annual music-recognition tests. Each session includes rhythmic activities, or folk games. There is the marimba waltz, the bolero.

And finally there are suggestions for fiestas. Throughout the State this spring, women's achievement days and 4-H girls' rally days will combine music and song and rhythm into festivals that will give their audiences a glimpse into the southern half of the Western Hemisphere. There will be flags, marimba music, and bright costumes as each county works out its own fiesta.

The climax of the music project comes annually at the 4-H girls' State convention at Iowa State College in June. County units are merged and, with only one rehearsal, put on an evening pageant of song, light, and color that annually draws thousands to the stadium. The cast itself includes about 2,000.

The county farm women's choruses; another phase of the rural music work in Iowa, for instance, mass into one group for background music. It is a spectacle, the single-rehearsal finish of which reflects the strength of 4-H Club and home project organization.

Miss Fannie R. Buchanan, extension rural sociologist is Iowa's rural music lady. She originates the year's plan, makes the plans, and writes the bulletin. And then everybody pitches in. Home economics specialists and organization staffs alike set aside a part of their training schools and teach Cielito Lindo (with the Castilian "th"), the bolero steps, and play the recorded music. The 4-H and home demonstration local leaders carry it next—back to their neighborhood clubs. The women and 4-H daughters and the sons carry the tunes and rhythm home with them, and soon you hear all rural Iowa singing, this year, of their neighbors to the south.

The Cover

The picture of the Latin-American farmer on the cover was taken by John Thompson of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations and the map on the inside of the cover page was drawn by Joseph X. Kondusky.

Farm Families Move for Defense

STANLEY D. CARPENTER, County Agent, Pulaski County, Ark.



Farmer in Camp Robinson area leasing his farm to the United States Army.

■ Soldiers are not the only persons who are leaving home to bolster the Nation's defense program. Also on the move in their Nation's interest are the hundreds of families who must evacuate the land needed for training troops.

Just as leaving good jobs and comfortable homes for the hard life of soldiering means sacrifice for the country's youth, so also does giving up their farms and homesteads mean sacrifice for farm families throughout the Nation.

But the celerity with which this mass relocation is being achieved, both of troops to camp, and of farm families to new homes and farms, is additional evidence of American efficiency and American patriotism. The movement of farm families has also given the agricultural agencies an opportunity to contribute to the Nation's defense program.

What has been done and what can be done in the rapid mass relocation of farm families has been demonstrated in Arkansas where 350 farm families including 1,444 persons were required to sever ties with the old homestead and find new locations within a period of 90 days.

In the expansion of the defense program, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, located 5 miles north of Little Rock, Ark., was designated as a military training center. In order to provide for the some 25,000 troops assigned to the camp, expansion of the training area

to provide artillery range and maneuvering area became necessary.

An additional 39,500 acres was needed for this purpose, and although the leasing of the necessary area would mean the displacement of 350 families, including 163 farm owners and 187 tenants, sharecroppers, operators, or day laborers, it was one of the inexorable "musts" of the defense program.

Early in November the 350 families were informed of the necessity and asked to lease their farms for military use and vacate them by January 31, 1941. Army lease of the land was on a 1-year basis. The leases were to be renewable for 4 years, and the first payment on the lease was to be paid in advance to aid families in relocating. This arrangement partly provided for the 163 owner families, but solved none of the difficulties for the tenants, sharecroppers, and day laborers. And November is not exactly a propitious time of the year to seek new landlords or new farms to rent.

Realizing the seriousness of the problem confronting the families, local representatives of the different agencies in the Department of Agriculture held a conference with Army engineers to see what could be done to assist the 350 families.

At the conference a committee composed of myself as chairman; Hudson Wren, State director of the Farm Security Administration; and Aubrey D. Gates, State representative of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, was set up to make a study of the

problems and to formulate plans to effect their solution.

After a thorough study of the economic and social aspects of the situation, the committee recommended that the land be purchased by some State or Federal agency. This recommendation was made for two reasons. It was believed that in the long run the Government could purchase the land outright cheaper than it could pay 5 years' rental and property damage, and the outright purchase would provide funds for the owner families in relocating.

Realizing, however, that the immediate and pressing problem facing the families was that of finding land and houses immediately, the committee set up a service bureau to assist them with this task. This organization swung into action on December 15, 1940, with Herschel T. Hardin, relocation supervisor of the FSA, as director.

First act of the service bureau was to contact representatives of agricultural agencies in all counties adjoining the camp area and ask them to survey their counties in regard to any land which might be for rent or sale.

The bureau then wrote to each family to be evacuated to inform them of the bureau's work and to offer assistance in relocating.

Both the service bureau and the farm families were assisted in this effort by many State landowners who, having read of the situation, notified the service bureau about farms for rent or for sale.

To further simplify the problem of aiding the families in leasing other farms, the Farm Security Administration set up the Camp Robinson Leasing Association, Inc. This cooperative was provided with a borrowing power of \$45,000 from the FSA, and the authority to lease either large or small farms and sublease them to the individual families.

The cooperative was established on the supposition that owners of large tracts of land might be more willing to make one master lease with an organization sponsored by the FSA, than to make a number of individual leases with unknown families. So far it has been unnecessary to use the leasing association.

Progress made to date (January 21) includes requests from 70 families for relocation and assistance, and definite relocation arrangements made through the bureau's assistance by all but 10 to 12 of the families.

As a result of these cooperative efforts, farm families assisted by troops and army trucks, are moving out of the camp area every day, and by January 31, we expect to have all the 1,444 persons settled in their new homes.

Rural Youth at Country Life Meeting

**E. L. KIRKPATRICK, Youth Section, Advisory Committee,
American Country Life Association**

■ More than 300 young people attending the youth section of the American Country Life Association, tried out different methods of discussion on the theme, The Rural Community. This plan not only gave delegates at the meeting a greater opportunity to participate and expand their information, but also let them have actual experiences with the different techniques so they would have confidence in carrying them out later with their own clubs.

A general forum was used effectively in considering the relationships found in rural areas and the organization of community meetings.

Under the leadership of an adept leader, the young people brought forth the difficulties they face in their organizations. It seemed well to combine similar problems and classify all under five or six main headings so that small "huddles" of about 12 or 18 people could give detailed attention to each at different places about the large room. Since time in the "huddles" was limited to about three-quarters of an hour, a leader and secretary were quickly chosen by each group and consideration of their particular question was undertaken. When time was up, all were invited to come together and hear short reports from the different groups.

Small group discussions on different phases of a larger topic, which was introduced by an opening talk before the entire group, were successful. The talk, limited to a maximum of 30 minutes, was the vivid portrayal of a specific rural community. It concluded with such questions as: Will the community ever awaken from its passiveness? What can young people do about it? Should the churches unite? Is there need for a young people's club?

Questions like these challenged the delegates to discuss, under youth leadership, situations found in their own communities when they went into smaller groups of about 25 or 30 people. In order to cover better the field in the hour and a quarter allotted, one group considered what can be done in the rural community with respect to employment; another, education; others health, recreation, religion, government, and the home. A summary of these discussions was made by a panel.

To bring before the entire delegation the important points growing out of separate small group discussions, a panel was used. Members represented topics considered and each gave a short statement at the outset. These were supplemented by additional ideas and questions from those on the panel and from people in the audience.

To help the prospective delegates and others get ready for the national conference, which was aimed to fit all for discussion in their local groups, the youth section officers and advisory committee prepared and made available a study outline or syllabus early in the year. This was based on suggestions made by different local clubs as to subtopics, method of treatment, and sources of pertinent information.

After at least some preliminary preparation at home, delegates to the national conference, who were to lead discussions, arrived in time for a preliminary session on the techniques of leading, recording, and summarizing. This session was attended by more persons than could be leaders but this helped to fit them better to participate as regular members in small group sessions and also gave them ideas to try at home.

4-H Clubs Speak Spanish

■ Spanish speaking peoples to the south of the United States are becoming interested in 4-H Clubs. The flourishing clubs of Puerto Rico are furnishing an object lesson which other Spanish speaking countries are noticing. The 7,200 boys and girls enrolled in Puerto Rico are growing their patches of plantain and bananas, caring for their pigs or flocks of chickens, canning, remodeling their own rooms, and planning their wardrobes much like their 4-H fellows on the mainland. Their motto is "Superar lo mejor"—Spanish, but still Make the Best Better.

For 2 years the Puerto Rican clubs have sent delegates to the 4-H Club Camp in Washington. These vivacious young people have

taken part in both the formal and informal discussions and have interested the young people from the States in their country and their work. This year they were also represented at the 4-H Club Congress by Jose F. Beauchamp, county agent of San Sebastian who gave a very interesting talk in Spanish telling of 4-H Club work in the United States over a short-wave broadcast to Central and South American countries.

News of the good work in Puerto Rico early spread to Venezuela, and Luis Mata Sifontes of the Ministry of Agriculture, came to Puerto Rico in 1939 to study the 4-H movement there. The 5-V Clubs standing for Venezuela, Valor, Vigor, Verdad, and Verguenza, were the result. To assist in or-

ganizing extension work in Venezuela, Miss Dolores Morales Diaz of the Puerto Rican Extension staff was lent to Venezuela for 6 months. During that period, 10 clubs were organized with 150 girls. Miss Diaz said "As the economic condition of these girls was poor they began immediately the clothing and home industries demonstrations with the idea of learning how to sew their own garments and to provide some money from the home industries work to continue with some other projects. They began to plant vegetables for home consumption to improve their own diets and took a great interest in canning products for the table." Two Venezuela girls returned to Puerto Rico with Miss Diaz to study further the work in Puerto Rico for 4 months before returning to take charge of the work in their own country.

The Spanish 4-H Club publications of Puerto Rico are very valuable in explaining the work to Spanish-American countries. Some 4-H Club bulletins in New Mexico have also been printed in Spanish since one-half of the population in that State are Spanish speaking. H. R. Hatch, State Club leader, is sending these publications to any leader asking for them.

Clubs for rural young folks in Cuba are known as the 5-C Clubs and are modeled after the 4-H Clubs in the United States. Motion pictures were made of their annual convention held in Colon, Cuba, the last of February by Raymond Evans, chief of the Motion Picture Section of the Federal Extension Service. During January and February, C. A. Lindstrom, Associate Chief of the Office of Motion Pictures and C. A. Carrello, photographer, visited Puerto Rico to take motion pictures of 4-H Club activities there. Both of these pictures will be available to Latin-American countries interested in knowing what 4-H Clubs are doing under tropical conditions.

Many leaders are becoming interested in the spread of 4-H Club work to Latin America. The Inter-American Committee on Agricultural Education recently appointed by President Roosevelt, of which Knowles A. Ryerson, Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of California, is chairman, is following the developments closely. This committee at their first meeting in November, passed the following resolution: "That we look with favor upon the encouragement of secondary and primary schools, extension service, and such organizations as the 4-H Clubs participating in cooperative efforts in Latin America and that we recognize this problem as a large one requiring study."

■ Washington farmers in 459 communities planted 60,439 acres of new, permanent pasture during the past year.

■ Homing pigeons are part of the project of a boys' 4-H Club in Portsmouth, R. I.

When a Powder Plant Comes to the Country

PLANNING COMMITTEE SHOWS QUICK ACTION

Because of the work of a planning committee, 200 houses are going up in and near Radford, Va., where the local people want them and where they will be of permanent value. The sites for these houses—100 in the town of Radford and 100 on nearby farms—were chosen from among those listed in the survey of last fall. The Farm Security Administration has been assigned to build these houses for defense workers at the powder plant.

■ The new year found acres of steel and masonry rapidly growing into a powder plant in the open fields of southwest Virginia. In October 1940, farmers pastured cows on these acres and, lifting eyes to the purple mountains which hem in the valleys, found everything quiet and peaceful just as their fathers had before them. On the first Saturday in January 1941, more than 11,000 workers engaged in building the plant stepped up to the pay window to receive their week's pay on these same fields.

The clamor of hammer on rivets beats out, day and night. As the night shift replaces the day shift, long lines of automobiles jam traffic on country roads in every direction. At night, powerful lights flood the ground for the workers, and illumine the sky for miles around.

The plant takes shape rapidly. By the middle of March the first powder line goes into production for national defense. More than 5,000 men and women will begin work on the powder line and in the bagging plant nearby, where powder is packed in silk bags.

Local people see what is going on, and wonder what it will mean to them. This is open farm country. Almost twice as many people are on the week's pay roll for constructing the huge plant as there are farm families living in the four surrounding counties. Times are changed there. Home-town folks can hardly get into the new post-office building in Blacksburg. Lock boxes were all rented long ago, and long queues of people await their turn at the general delivery window. Stores are doing a booming business and local folk find it hard to get their marketing done or to obtain labor for their usual needs. People are living anywhere—in trailers, tents, and old buildings. They often drive 40 or 50 miles to work. Workers looking for rooms besiege the homes in town and along the highways. Rumors run rampant—about work at the plant, about housing conditions, about defense. Life is changed in these once peaceful valleys, whether for better or for worse. Local people feel it, pucker their eyebrows and ask: How will it end? What will it mean to them?

Many State and Federal agencies working

for the welfare of the people of the State have headquarters at Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

The Federal Government in Washington saw a chance to try out local planning to promote orderly development of local areas with the help of emergency activities. It was believed that planning might prevent tragic "ghost" towns, and alleviate human misery in unemployment when the plant is closed after the emergency. The Defense Council and the War Department were glad to cooperate.

The State agricultural planning committee was consulted, and a special committee was appointed to report on local conditions, particularly in regard to available labor and housing. Defense plans do not proceed leisurely. The report was needed immediately, and the committee went to work the same day it was appointed. About 10 days later, the completed report, which included data collected on about 7,000 farm families and special reports from the six town councils, was speeding on its way to the Department at Washington for transmission to the National Defense Commission. Accompanying the report was a large map showing the location of more than 900 sites for emergency housing, which sites could be leased by the Government and utilized later to raise housing standards of the local people.

How the report was prepared is as significant as the information it provided. The committee responsible for the report decided to include the four counties surrounding the plant, as they would be most affected. All counties had county agricultural agents, two had home demonstration agents, but none of them had organized for land use planning. Farm Security supervisors, vocational teachers, Agricultural Adjustment Administration clerks, Rural Electrification and Farm Credit representatives were working in the area and were ready to cooperate wholeheartedly.

It was the middle of November before the special committee was appointed by the State land use committee to make the survey in the Hercules plant area. This committee included: J. S. Wills, State rural rehabilita-

tion director, Farm Security Administration; Miss Maude Wallace, assistant director of extension in charge of home demonstration work; Dr. H. N. Young, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Dr. T. B. Hutcheson, Agricultural Experiment Station; W. H. Fippin, State representative of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture; and B. L. Hummel of the extension staff, State leader of program planning, and in direct charge of the survey—"the blitz" as they call it down there.

The first step was to call together all the county representatives of public agencies working in each county. Next day, November 15, meetings with county workers were started in Pulaski County. The next day, in the morning, Montgomery County workers met; in the afternoon, the State group went to Giles County. The workers in Floyd County—the last of the four counties—had to wait until Monday morning, the 18th.

To each meeting the local representatives brought any neighborhood people who had been taking a leading part in affairs of the county and who might be helpful in gleaning needed information. At each meeting the facts of the powder plant and the place it occupies in defense plans were explained, how many people it will take to run the plant, and the plans for emergency housing under the new Lanham Act for national defense housing. People were told of the need for more local information if these activities are to contribute to permanent prosperity in the counties instead of leading to a period of painful readjustment after the powder plant is closed.

Community Workers Chosen

At this first meeting, committee chairmen—a man and a woman for each community in the county—were selected. These communities had been outlined on maps of the county as laid out by four trained workers who took to the roads for 2 days, sketching natural communities where the people met for shopping, went to church in the same town, and attended the same schools. The community chairman selected his own neighborhood committee members, 1 for each 25 or 30 families. Each member went to work as soon as he was appointed.

Each neighborhood committeeman made a list of his farmer neighbors and all people living in his special territory, and filled out a report on each one showing the condition of their housing, the amount of available labor, and whether the farmer would be willing to

lease a lot to the Government for emergency housing of a powder-plant employee. They met in schoolhouses, churches, stores, and homes; they burned the midnight oil; in struggling with the reports; they telephoned and made calls to check their information. In exactly 3 days they turned in reports for about 7,000 farm families living in the four counties. More than 3,000 hours were given by 488 patriotic citizens in collecting this information. They obtained the needed data on practically every rural resident in the four counties.

Thanksgiving Day broke into the week of "the blitz," but all the reports were turned in before the holiday and, following Thanksgiving Day, the State committee summarized and made up the final report. About one-third of the houses in the four counties were considered by the local citizens as inadequate for families living there. Of these families, 969 were eligible and interested in helping by leasing a lot for emergency housing which, when the emergency is over, they will be in a position to buy and live in themselves. To be eligible for housing the family had to be a good moral risk, with enough good land to support an adequate standard of living, and must live within a 25-mile radius of the plant, and have access to an all-weather road.

These home sites were all indicated on a map of the four counties, which was sent with the report to Washington on the following Sunday.

The report also included information prepared by six town councils on the number of houses in towns that could be absorbed with advantage and serviced with light, sewerage, water, and schools. The number of houses ranged from 50 to 200 in each town.

The Defense Council and the War Department promised to consider the report in the emergency housing plans. They, however, asked more questions about available labor in the area. A few days later the information was available on the number of rural people employed in industry, the number that had applied for employment, and the number that wanted industrial employment, but had

not yet made definite application. This was broken down into age groups, of applicants over 18 years. It will be of great value in planning for the activity in connection with the powder plant, and also in the work done in the four counties by each of the public agencies.

Three factors made for the unusual success of this undertaking, says Mr. Hummel, extension leader in land use planning. First, the regular procedure worked out for county land use planning in the State was used. This method of coordinating action had been tried out and found effective in the unified counties, and was ready for this emergency test. Second, the delineation of neighborhoods into small areas of 25 or 30 families made it possible for each committeeman or woman to know intimately all families in his group. Third, assigning of a professional person to work with each of the committee chairmen gave trained workers a chance to follow through on procedure, to furnish clerical help or transportation when needed, to summarize results, and generally to assist wherever help was needed. There were 48 professional workers taking such a part in "the blitz."

As an example of the willing contribution of these rural committee members, one woman when asked to serve, said: "How can I? We have just killed the hogs and I have to take care of the meat."

"That's too bad," replied the woman who had driven up with the message, "for they particularly wanted you because you keep the store and know everyone in this neighborhood."

"I'll come," said the first woman, "if you can come after me at noon tomorrow." At noon she was ready and waiting.

"Well, what did you do with the meat?" asked the messenger.

"Oh, I canned it—80 quarts of it," was the reply.

When late that evening there were still 20 reports to be filled out, this same woman said, "Give them to me. My husband and I can fix them up tonight, and you can call for them in the morning"—and they did.

is spent becoming familiar with governmental activities of the Federal Extension Service, Bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, and other departments, as well as legislative procedures in Congress. Concerts, theaters, lectures, art galleries, and places of historical significance offer many opportunities for cultural development.

As the program includes work on a graduate level, the candidates' academic records in college are considered, as well as their records and leadership in 4-H Club work, college activities, and after graduation. Interest and experience in extension work and ability to make good use of the fellowships are other qualities given consideration in making the selection.

Social Developments Studied

A series of three women's Short Courses in Social Development was conducted in New Jersey on a discussion basis and built around present-day social and economic problems in their relation to family life. The directors were Marion F. McDowell and Phyllis B. Davis, extension specialists in child development and family relations.

What are the serious problems of our society? What lies back of them? How are they affecting family life? What is the individual's responsibility in a democracy? Such were the problems raised during three mornings of discussion.

In each of these programs, 20-minute fragments of commercial moving pictures were used, specially edited by and available through the Progressive Education Association. These pictures served as springboards for discussion of family life problems.

Improvement Plans

A committee of farmers in Knox County, Ky., has announced the following program for 1941: The growing of better corn in every community, increased acreage of red clover, sufficient potatoes for home use and some to sell, live-at-home program in every community, dual-purpose cattle for whole county, more and better poultry, soil treatment, and the use of more seed to increase pasture production.

National 4-H Fellowships Offered

■ Two \$1,000 fellowships providing for 9 months' study in Washington, D. C., are provided by the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work, of Chicago, Ill. The qualifications of the young man and young woman selected for the 1941-42 fellowships must include: 4 years as a 4-H Club member, college degree in agriculture or home economics, and at least a year of experience after college graduation. They must not have passed their twenty-seventh birthday on June 1, 1941. Nominations are to be submitted to the Federal Extension Service, Washington,

D. C., by State 4-H leaders before April 15.

The program and activities of the fellows are supervised by the Division of Field Studies and Training. Extension organization and program development, extension methods, and organization and conduct of 4-H Club work are among the courses which may be taken in the United States Department of Agriculture Graduate School or nearby universities. A research problem dealing with some phase of 4-H Club work is carried out, prepared as a thesis, and summarized for publication as an Extension Service circular. Considerable time

■ Interrelationship of industry, commerce, and agriculture and their effect on Georgia farm living in 1941 were discussed in detail at the annual conference of the State Agricultural Extension Service.

Well-known leaders in the field of industry, commerce, and agriculture addressed the conference during the week. Afternoon sessions were devoted to panel discussions concerning what had been said in the morning speeches. Special emphasis was placed on county program planning as a means of improving the State's agriculture.

Surplus Cotton Does Its Bit

■ Around long tables, covered with cotton "ticks" partly filled with fluffy cotton, Negro men and women were making mattresses in the old jailhouse in Nash County, N. C. In this jail, temporarily converted into a home demonstration center, the home demonstration agent had set up a mattress-making work center in rooms provided by the county commissioners.

Mrs. Effie V. Gordon, home demonstration agent; M. Eugene Starnes, assistant county agent at large; and a member of the REVIEW staff had come to this work center to see rural farm families make their own cotton mattresses.

It was a chilly January day, and there were still long cold nights ahead before the sun would warm the fields for spring planting. In the minds of these people was the contrast between their old ticks filled with straw, pine needles, or corn shucks which they now had at home and the new ones filled with cotton.

The smiles on the faces of these folks indicated that they were having a happy day. They were doing something for themselves that would bring them more comfort and better sleep. After the day's work the mattresses they were making would be taken home for their families.

These North Carolinians had accepted the offer made by the United States Government to furnish cotton to low-income families so that they could make their own mattresses. Except for its unusual location, this center was typical of thousands of mattress-making work projects.

In North Carolina, as in many other States, thousands of low-income families are obtaining 50 pounds of free cotton plus 10 yards of cotton ticking for each mattress.

With the cooperation of the Surplus Marketing Administration, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and the Federal and State Extension Services, the program is now being carried on in many States.

Because they have found it important to have work centers capably supervised, extension agents in North Carolina first show their home demonstration club women and other voluntary workers how to make the mattresses. The trained volunteer supervisors then go to the various work centers to show others the process and to see that the work is done properly. They are aided by National Youth Administration boys and girls and 4-H Club girls who go from table to table helping everyone.

In one center, which I visited, four 4-H Club girls were supervising the work.

The making of a mattress is considered a family affair. Mother, father, and grown sons and daughters come to the work center at the appointed time. Only emergencies can keep them at home.

Each morning families bring in a few sticks

of wood to burn in the corner stove so that fingers of these eager workers can wield those long needles that pull the thread through the mattress for tying the tufts.

Four, five, or six workers—neighbors or family groups—gather around each of the dozen or more tables to keep at their task until the mattress is finished. First, layers of fluffy cotton are placed on the open tick, and the tick pinned together. Beating sticks are used to distribute the cotton evenly inside the ticks. The beating also makes the mattress soft.

At first when there is only a little cotton in the ticks the sticks crash upon the wooden table with a continuous rat-a-tat of a drum. Then, as more layers of cotton are stuffed in, the noise becomes more muffled. Always the sound is rhythmical.

The workers go through the same process over and over again—filling the tick with cotton, pinning it together, and then beating it until each mattress has 50 pounds of cotton. Then the tick is sewn together and beaten once more to make it still softer.

Help of Men Is Important

The strong hands of the men usually help force the roll in around the edge. The men do much of the tufting and most of the beating.

When the stitches are not made as they should be or the needles are not "picking" the cotton just right—for a good firm roll—supervisors or their assistants step up to show the workers the best way to do the job. As all are proud of their mattresses they try again and again until everyone is satisfied.

Many families help each other make their mattresses. Some women I have talked with have worked on as many as 15 mattresses.

One morning Mrs. Pratt C. McSwain, home demonstration agent of Union County, N. C., noticed in one of the work centers that seven or eight of the leaders were clustered around one table helping a single mattress maker—a young farmer.

She asked, "Why so many teachers for one pupil?"

Apologetically, the young farmer replied:

"A fine son was born at my house last night at 2 o'clock, and these ladies are helping me so I can hurry back home and have a nice mattress for him."

He told them how much the baby weighed. He said he had not slept much that night, but that this was his day to come in to make his mattress.

In North Carolina nearly 2,000 voluntary leaders are helping in the 1,123 communities where mattresses have been distributed. These include 763 NYA workers and others being aided through Federal and State welfare programs. The Surplus Marketing Administra-

tion has turned over to them nearly 9,000 bales of cotton and 900,000 yards of ticking.

Visits to the work centers and to many homes in which the new mattresses were being used in four counties of North Carolina—Durham, Nash, Stanly, and Union—gave the writer a better appreciation of what the mattress-making program is doing for rural families than she could have obtained in any other way.

The first million mattresses made were distributed only to the low-income rural families with incomes of less than \$400.

At present, however, in most of the States low-income rural families are eligible to participate if their incomes for the preceding calendar year have not been more than \$500, plus \$50 for each member of the family in excess of four persons. The family may live in the country, village, town, or city but must have derived at least one-half of its income during the preceding calendar year from agricultural occupations.

In the East-Central region any farm family is eligible whose total income is not in excess of \$600, or any other family living in the country or a village having a population of 2,500 or less whose total income is not in excess of \$500.

The number of mattresses made in the United States under this program has exceeded 1,147,000, and still the work continues.

Figures for last year showed that there were three or four times as many mattresses made from the surplus cotton than the number of women enrolled in home demonstration clubs. Many of the women in these clubs are not eligible to make mattresses for their own homes. Thus, many new people are becoming acquainted with extension workers.

As another means of utilizing surplus cotton, comforters are being made in the mattress work centers. Each family participating in the mattress program is eligible to receive 10 yards of percale and 4 pounds of cotton to make one comforter for each mattress which it has made and received under the mattress program.

Ruth Current, home demonstration leader in North Carolina, who visited Union County with J. W. Fox, assistant editor; Mr. Starnes, and me, gave one example of the gratifying response to the mattress-making program.

She told of an elderly Negro man who was waiting at the door of a center in Jones County one cold morning when the other workers arrived. Nearby stood his mule and cart, which he had driven 15 miles. When asked why he drove so far so early in the frosty morning he drawled:

"Missus Sybil, iff'n you'd never slept on nothin' but a grass mattress for 60 years, you'd a drove 15 miles to get one of dese good mattresses, too."

What About Pictures?

■ The do's and don'ts of extension photography were presented to New Mexico workers at their December conference by a group of panel exhibits.

"What About Extension Photographs?" was the exhibit theme. Agents' and specialists' efforts were displayed for praise or censure.

The exhibit was designed to emphasize that an extension worker should not give up attempting to get good, usable pictures just because he doesn't have expensive equipment. It was pointed out that anyone, by carefully observing a relatively few simple rules, should be able to take satisfactory photographs of extension activities.

The panel devoted to photographic "duds" bore the following legend:

"To avoid these, remember to look for human interest, look for shots that tell a story, look for shots that show a practice, know your camera's limitations, plan your pictures, use a tripod or solid stand if you must take more time than $\frac{1}{25}$ of a second, remember focus, watch the light, make subject appear natural, try to maintain a center of interest." A final suggestion for improv-

ing photographs was this: "High-speed films help solve indoor picture-taking problems and help prevent consistent underexposure outdoors."

Critical notes for the photographs appearing on the "dud" panel were prepared under the direction of the visual instruction leader and were mounted below the photographs. The fault, or failure to observe one or more of the cautions, was pointed out for each print exhibited.

A second panel, entitled "These Have Possibilities," presented photographs which were judged superior. Accompanying notes explained the reasons for their excellence. Two of the panels on which one agent displays his best pictures at community gatherings were also included in the exhibit. The remainder of the exhibit consisted of panels showing how photographs such as any agent or specialist may take are used to advantage in newspapers, magazines, and bulletins.

As the photographic exhibit filled one wall of the main meeting room, every worker had an opportunity to examine it several times during conference week.

they may debate or have panel discussions. Sexing demonstrations have not infrequently been held or perhaps they may study, with live specimens, the result of crossing breeds or strains.

No attempt has ever been made to popularize the school and secure large attendance. Enrollment of poultrymen is about 125 a year and 50 students in poultry and animal husbandry from the college. The most gratifying results are not in the attendance, which seems to increase slightly each year, but in the results that these poultrymen are achieving. The egg production in this State is higher than in any other, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports, R. O. P. summaries and laying contest figures. The genes about which students study have been fixed in their flocks. For a State in which commercial poultry production predominates, high egg production is very important.

It was a far-sighted move on the part of Prof. J. C. Graham, then head of the poultry department, when he selected genetics for the subject of investigation by his department nearly a quarter century ago.

The News Travels

It pays to advertise, according to Emma Freehling, home demonstration agent of Miami County, Kans., who bases her conviction on personal experience.

Miss Freehling wrote a story for her local newspapers about the 5,000-acre game conservation area being carried as a 4-H Club project by Harold Sodamann. Among the results of that one brief story were these:

The Osawatimie Sports Club got in touch with Mr. Sodamann and asked to cooperate in the project by placing more birds on the area.

A Mr. Anderson of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who owned some Miami County land, read the story and wrote a letter to the editor of the newspaper expressing his approval of the project and his hope that other landowners would become interested in sponsoring similar undertakings.

The Weekly Kansas City Star telephoned young Sodamann for information about the project and soon used a two-column story on the front page, with two photographs, relating the accomplishments of this conservation-minded club member. This newspaper, which has a larger Kansas circulation than any other, gave widespread publicity to the program. Miss Freehling is expecting more mail.

■ Such topics as keeping the family healthy, objectives of parent education, marriage courses in high school and college, children in a democracy, and child development were on the mental menu served at the annual Parent's Institute at Purdue University, Indiana.

Poultrymen Study Genetics

G. T. KLEIN, Extension Poultry Husbandman, Massachusetts

■ Thirteen years ago the poultrymen of Massachusetts were invited to study the genetics of the domestic chicken, particularly as related to characters affecting egg production, breed characteristics, breeding ability, and egg characters. It was the first Massachusetts Poultry Breeders' School, sponsored jointly by the Extension Service and the poultry department of Massachusetts State College.

Poultrymen came to this school and when the lessons opened, paid enthusiastic attention to this science of genetics which was so new to most of them. Some went home after a class or two, for to them it seemed absolutely beyond understanding. Many stuck it out, and as the professors explained the inheritance of comb type or color they began to see a reason for the behavior of certain things in their flocks.

At an early hour in the morning before the regular classes started, instructors met students for extra sessions and drills in the fundamentals of genetics. These were entirely voluntary but were well attended by eager students. They learned the workings of a 3 to 1 ratio, what dominants and recessives meant, linkage and crossing over. They became friendly with genes and in spare moments

were seen studying inheritance from reference text books.

Poultry breeding has long been the specialty of the poultry department of Massachusetts State College. Dr. H. D. Goodale was for several years research professor in that field. When he resigned to become affiliated with Mount Hope Farm, Dr. Frank A. Hays succeeded him. Breeding experiments have been conducted without interruption for 28 years.

Instructors for the school have been, in addition to Dr. Goodale, Dr. Hays and other members of the poultry department staff, professors in genetics from Amherst College, or other institutions located nearby. Each year one guest speaker, a specialist in genetics and preferably poultry breeding, is brought in. Each year the students have a drill in the fundamental rules of inheritance and they study the performance of the station flock of Massachusetts.

Year after year students return to the school to learn more about the genes. Even those who left in despair return with a determination to master it. On the first day, classes start after noon and for 2 more full days they study applied genetics. In the evenings poultrymen discuss practical subjects or enjoy motion pictures on a related subject. Perhaps

Steering a Course by Land Use Plans

MAUDE L. SEARCY,

Home Demonstration Agent, Caswell County, N. C.

"It was the work of the home demonstration agent and the women that put the plan over in Caswell County," declared Jack Criswell, North Carolina's land use leader, at a regional land use planning meeting in Atlanta, Ga. "At every corner the men said 'It can't be done' but the home demonstration agent said it could be done and did it whether it was canning, planting, or working up attendance at meetings." As one of the leaders in the success of land use planning in the State unified county, Miss Searcy here tells of her experiences.

■ A little more than a year ago, Caswell County was selected as the first county in North Carolina in which to attempt a unified program of work for the several educational and agricultural agencies working in the county. The emphasis was to be on the land use planning program.

I feel that the home demonstration women have had a definite part in the results of the year's work in this very comprehensive undertaking.

In each of the nine townships, four men and three women were designated to act as a land use planning committee. These committees were charged with the difficult task of mapping and classifying the natural resources in their respective townships.

Before any attempt was made to define the problems and to set up goals for achievement, a number of community meetings were announced. All the people in the community were invited and urged to attend and to take part in the discussions at these meetings. The discussions were led by Jack Criswell, the Extension Service leader in land use planning, and R. T. Melvin, State representative for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

All the educational agencies working in the county entered wholeheartedly into these discussions, as did the farmers and farm women. The women, having been accustomed to working in organized groups, took the lead in many of the activities. The problems arising from these discussions were carefully defined and listed, and definite goals were set up for each township. They included verbal and inadequate leasing agreements with the resulting poor and insanitary housing facilities and insufficient farm equipment, unimproved roads, and inadequate school and recreational facilities. Definite goals for improving these conditions

were set up. After this, the township committees, consisting of farmers and agencies working together, formulated a consolidated program for the whole county.

It should be stated here that before this study and planning got under way, the home agent and her clubwomen had already made up their plan of work for the year. Each demonstration had been planned, meetings listed, and the time and place for the specialists had been indicated.

We adapted our program to cooperate with the unified program. A new program was built around the enlarged plan of work. We have concentrated our combined efforts upon the exact problems which the people of the county said were most pressing.

Under the new plan of work we asked each clubwoman to assume responsibility for five year-round gardens, one of which was to be a demonstration garden. The women entered upon the task enthusiastically, with the result that in some of the communities there were as many as three or four demonstration gardens, all of them excellent examples of careful planning.

The number of year-round gardens has increased more than 50 percent. The total number of all gardens in the county this year was more than 2,000, the largest number ever known in this county.

In the land use planning committees' report 47 goals were set up for home and community beautification and home improvement. Mrs. Joe Smith, Leasburg, N. C., county chairman for home beautification, reports that we have exceeded that number nearly 100 percent. One hundred and forty-five high-school girls completed home-improvement projects.

Meetings devoted to the growing and arrangement of flowers were held in several communities. Later in the year the county's

first flower show was held at the county seat. There were 92 very creditable entries by farm women and girls.

Demonstrations were conducted in food preservation in keeping with the land use planning committee's live-at-home program. In 1 month seven farm women purchased pressure cookers. Many learned to can meat for the first time. In one instance where there was a large family, a whole beef was canned. Many families put up quantities of fruit and vegetable juices for the first time.

Five excellent water systems have been installed by farmers during the year as a result of three meetings devoted to that subject. Four of these have electric pumps; one a hydraulic ram.

The unified program listed fruits and berries as one of the very desirable and necessary achievement goals. Each clubwoman was requested to plant at least a dozen small fruits and at least one fruit tree during the year. To date, 69 of these women have planted a total of 3,830 plants of strawberries, raspberries, young dewberries, and grapes. More than 1,000 fruit trees have been planted.

At the beginning of the year 4 clubwomen were keeping poultry flock records; now 10 are keeping records.

Another goal of the land use planning committee is hot lunches as a regular service in every school in the county. To date, 30 of the 54 schools in the county have provided that service. Mrs. Walter H. Williamson, Reidsville, N. C., Route 1, is county chairman for the school lunch committee. Still another goal is better library facilities for the farm folk of the county. A fund was started for the purchase of a bus to be used as a "book-mobile" for Caswell County. Mrs. J. H. Gunn, Yanceyville, N. C., chairman of the subcommittee, charged with that responsibility, has just reported that the funds for the bus are growing steadily.

At the county fair a booth was arranged as an attractive reading room. This attracted much interest and resulted in many small contributions. This service is bringing to the farm people of the county opportunities for reading worth-while books that they have not had before.

The county farm agent has in his files reports that are just as satisfactory. There have been heartening increases in the number of dairy cows, beef animals, hogs and poultry. The live-at-home plan has been translated into diversified crops, more food crops, more feed, and better farm management in every community in the county.

A new interest in farms and in farm planning is apparent now among the 3,000 farm families of the county. It is a sort of revival of hope that had been shrinking. The farm people are working and planning with genuine enthusiasm again.

Perhaps much of this can be attributed to the many opportunities that our people have had during the year to come together and

learn of each other's problems and to plan together for their solution. They have gained a perspective of the jobs to be done and, what is more important, a familiarity with the working tools of government, science, and administration.

In comparison with some of these, their own individual problems seem trivial. For instance, the seemingly cross-purpose jobs of increasing soil fertility and controlling production on an individual farm does not appear to be at cross purposes when viewed as a problem affecting an entire community.

Tobacco is, and must remain, the principal cash crop for some time to come, unless the market fails completely. It has become a tradition with our farmers. However, there are unmistakable signs of a trend toward diversified farming. Up to a year ago, there

had been little tendency in that direction.

There is a definite live-at-home interest. The number of year-round gardens and the greatly increased varieties of vegetables grown, the increase in dairy cows, and poultry flocks, all attest this fact.

There has been an increase of more than 40 percent in the farm poultry flocks from which eggs are being marketed regularly. For the first time there is a milk route in the county. The number of additional cows brought into the county during the 12 months will exceed 10 percent.

In the words of one of our farm women, Mrs. Smith of Mebane, "There appears to be a drive on for all-round improvement. I want to be counted among those who will put this job over. It is making Caswell County a more prosperous place."

Transformation in Star Valley



Digging, burlapping, and transporting native cedar trees from nearby canyons for planting around the tabernacle grounds in Afton, Wyo.

■ The residents of Star Valley, Wyo., or The Little Switzerland of America—so-called because of its high peaks, dairy herds, cheese factories, and green pastures—have made rapid strides in their yard-improvement and tree-planting program since the work was written up last spring in the April Extension Service Review, reports W. O. Edmondson, extension horticulturist, Wyoming.

In traveling through the valley the two most noticeable improvements carried out as

a result of the first year's work on the 5-year program are painting and weatherboarding of farm buildings. Paint was made available at reduced prices through a cooperative agreement made by the Lincoln County Farm Bureau with a local merchant. As a result, 210 farm homes and buildings received a new coat of paint. Forty-seven unfinished homes were completed by the addition of an outside surface of rustic siding. Other building improvements that were carried out by cooperators included the painting

of fences, the repair or removal of old, unsightly buildings, and the construction of fences, walks, and drives. Home water systems were developed from wells or springs by 89 farmers.

Beautification of home grounds was a major phase of the improvement program. Trees and shrubs were planted around nearly 400 farm homes. Tours on which trees and shrubs were dug from canyons nearby and transplanted into yards, were sponsored by local groups in cooperation with the Forest Service and the Extension Service. Flower beds were planted, and old lawns were improved or new ones were made. Many farmers also planted small fruit orchards and vegetable gardens.

Improvements were not confined to homes; through the enthusiastic cooperation of community members, churches and schools also received attention. A total of 7 public buildings in the valley were painted, and 12 public grounds were landscaped.

Of the 790 farm homes, schools, churches, and business establishments in the program, 66 percent made definite progress by the end of the first year. As a climax to the work done during this period a beautification ball was held in a ballroom in Afton, and prizes were awarded by the chambers of commerce of Star Valley to the districts making the greatest improvements. Awards totaling \$45 were made to the communities of Bedford, North Afton, South Afton, and Fairview. These awards will be used for additional beautification of churches and public buildings. An account of the progress made was published on the first page of a State farm paper, with pictures showing the active interest taken in the beautification of Star Valley.

Cotton Bagging for Cotton Bales

The 1941 cotton-bagging-for-cotton-bales program of the Surplus Marketing Administration calls for the manufacture and sale of up to 2,000,000 cotton "patterns," or bale covers, to encourage the use of domestic cotton for this purpose and to provide an additional outlet for a part of the surplus.

The 1941 program will operate similarly to the cotton bagging programs conducted in 1938-39 and in 1939-40, under which a total of about 2,000,000 patterns were made and sold by participating manufacturers for use as bale covers.

Under the 1941 program payments of 15 cents per pattern will be made to the manufacturers holding approved applications who make cotton patterns according to approved specifications and sell them to cotton producers, cotton ginners, cotton-seed oil mills, and other distributors of bagging for cotton. Patterns must be either manufactured or sold before June 30, 1941.

Have You Read?

Public Administration and the United States Department of Agriculture, by J. M. Gaus and Leon O. Wolcott. 534 pp. Chicago, Ill. Public Administration Service. 1940. (Available at a special price to those cooperatively employed by the United States Department of Agriculture, State extension services, and land-grant colleges.)

This book is likely to be considered for some time as the leading handbook of information and understanding about the United States Department of Agriculture, and perhaps, about many of the most important phases of agricultural life in America. John M. Gaus, the senior author, is chairman of the department of political science in the University of Wisconsin. He has brought to this intensive examination of the Department wide acquaintance with the outlook of farmers, county and State officials, and active-minded citizens toward the activities of this and other Federal departments which touch the welfare of the agriculturalist. Leon Wolcott, an attorney with special training in the field of public administration, has served for over a year as an assistant to the secretary of the Department and is now secretary to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Even before Abraham Lincoln signed in 1862 the bill which created the Department, agricultural functions had "sprouted" in the Patent Office. Just as its origin was due to needs voiced by the United States Agricultural Society, so the expansion of its duties since that time has been the outgrowth chiefly of a succession of demands for further service by groups of farmers. Yet the authors make clear that many of its activities, such as the nutrition work of the Bureau of Home Economics, are of direct concern to the public generally.

In its infancy, the Department's activities were based on the scientific studies of chemists, botanists, and entomologists concerned with problems of agricultural production. The years 1889 to 1913 are described as a period of "pluralism"—a time when the new duties which were rapidly assumed expressed the sense of importance of the independent American farmer. To serve him, the Department acquired the Weather Bureau, the Office of Road Inquiry, the Office of Experiment Stations; and at the turn of the century, the Bureaus of Chemistry, Forestry, Plant Industry, and Soils joined the older agencies. Soon were added the Bureaus of Statistics, Entomology, and Biological Survey. But this period also saw the recognition that farmers must market as well as produce. By 1906 a substantial body of market control laws had been passed. During these years also came the beginning of a national conservation policy, not only for forests but also for wildlife.

When in 1913 David Houston became the head of the Department he expressed the "progressive movement" ferment by systematically broadening the Department's policies directing them into the fields of distribution, into the broader economic problems of rural life, into the questions of fair prices to farmers and unfair prices to consumers, into the problems of farm and home management.

When the end of the World War brought economic disaster to the middle western and southern farmers the Department increased its emphasis upon economic problems—an attitude expressed by the organization in 1922 of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Despite the dominant philosophy of "normalcy" that prevailed in the post-war years, the shadows that lay athwart the farm beyond the rays of the business "golden glow," produced an intensification and expansion of activities within established bureaus and added new bureaus in partial response to the cries of rural distress. At the same time in the Forest Service, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and the Bureau of Soils, as well as in many of the land-grant colleges, voices were being raised, and studies prosecuted, which called attention to a growing crisis in the use of our lands through soil erosion and forest depletion.

This is the setting for the tremendous expansion of functions, personnel, and social interest which has characterized the Department of Agriculture during the past 8 years. It is clear that in the pre-New Deal period its work had expanded far beyond the limits regarded as "legitimate" by recent critics. Yet these newer activities were without an avowed and official philosophy which could serve as a basis for an integrated attack upon the basic agricultural problems, or for revising the administrative structure of the Department so as to provide an instrument adequate to a Nation-wide, Federal-State-farmer cooperative program. Henry Wallace, the younger, has furnished this philosophy and leadership.

Current activities, therefore (described and interpreted in part II), while continuing the attack upon problems of production (but with a new twist in the form of limiting production goals), are broadening and intensifying the attack upon problems of markets and distribution, are launching through a galaxy of bureaus, offices, State and local committees, a frontal attack upon soil erosion, moisture wastages, forest and wildlife depletion; and finally, reaching out as never before, are striving to bring decent and healthful living standards to disadvantaged farm families. Chapters of analysis and interpretation of activities are rewarding.

The authors declare that the Department of Agriculture is no longer a mere collection of semiautonomous bureaus, but that it is today possessed of much organic unity. It is fitting, therefore, that part III of the text is concerned with organization and administrative management. Most attention is given to the general and auxiliary staff agencies within the Secretary's establishment. This should be of great interest to administrative officers in the bureaus and field services, and to all students of public administration. It is supplemented by copies of significant official documents in a well-chosen appendix, and by an essay on Budgetary Administration contributed by Verne Lewis.

Any employe of the Department of Agriculture or of the Extension Service who wants to understand the governmental and social context in which his own work is carried on, or the historical background of the function and agency in which he participates, should place this book upon his "must" list. But the study should have the attention of a much wider public; for every active citizen concerned with the problems of our land and its husbandmen will find within its covers much substance and inspiration.—*Charles McKinley, executive secretary to Administrative Council, United States Department of Agriculture.*

Leadership for Rural Life, by Dwight Sanderson, foreword by M. L. Wilson, 127 pp. New York, N. Y., Associated Press, 1940.

"More and more we are coming to look to local participation in planning of programs and in the carrying out of agreed-upon action. This may seem to complicate the task of the professional leader and the experts who are charged with facilitating these programs. In the short run, it might seem simpler just to have them go ahead with whatever action they believed desirable; but in the long run the democratic approach recognizing the needs of all of the people is bound to be the more effective. Not only will it assure better planning in the sense of better adaptation to local needs, but it will also eliminate many of the administrative frictions which develop around programs which are handed down from above.

"Extension workers and others who are charged with assisting in the development of programs to meet not only current needs, but also the changed needs of the world which may emerge from the present upheaval, are vitally concerned with questions of leadership. Their primary job is to help the community analyze its problems in the light of all available information and so to organize itself that the necessary action can be taken. More than ever before they need to be aware of the processes by which a community develops its leaders and the ways in which a letter influences his community.

"Professor Sanderson has rendered a valu-

able service to all those professional leaders and lay leaders in executive positions who are constantly confronted by the problems of local leadership. If they can assimilate the principles and the suggestions which he lays down here, they will have demonstrated Professor Sanderson's description of how the successful leader spreads his efforts by working through others."—*From foreword by M. L. Wilson.*

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American Trade (December 1, 1939); *Progress of Pan-American Cooperation* (February 15, 1940); *Economic Defense of the Americas* (August 1, 1940); and the *Havana Conference of 1940* (September 15, 1940).

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Montana Agent Saves Time

■ Many a county agent has often wished he could look in a magician's mirrors and multiply himself about six times in order to accomplish all the jobs he has on hand. However, Charlie Jarrett, extension agent, Valley County, Mont., has come as near as possible to doing that—but he does it with wires.

He has found that an interoffice communication system is saving him steps and time in answering numerous inquiries that reach his desk. In Valley County, the extension and AAA offices occupy the same building, with one waiting room serving the two offices. Before interoffice communication (IOC) came into the picture, a large number of trips were necessary between the two offices. But now

it is different, and here is what County Agent Jarrett says about it:

"When farmers come in now and ask me for information regarding the AAA, or they want to work out a farm plan, rather than to get up and go into the other room and find a folder and then take it back when we are through, we can call the particular clerk that is in charge or working on that particular phase of the program, and she can give us the information. We are saving time and steps. Questions often come up with the AAA committee and they communicate to me through this communication system. It saves time from coming in here and getting me. And lots of times we can settle a question with them in their office and me in mine by

the use of this interoffice communication system."

Here is something else about IOC that Charlie will tell you. If a farmer steps up to the counter in the outer office and tells the clerk what he thinks of the county agent in particular and the whole agricultural program in general, Charlie gets the "low-down" on the visitor's feelings via IOC before he enters the private office. Charlie says that is what you call being "one jump in the lead."

The IOC system which Jarrett has is not a commercial product, but is worked over from a small 4-tube radio. The entire set-up cost only \$35. A speaker is on the extension clerk's desk and also on the counter for the AAA office. The control switch on the machine is in Jarrett's office so that he can cut in the extension clerk or the others when he wishes to talk to them direct. Conversations from both speakers come into Jarrett's office. The entire outfit is hooked up to the regular 110-volt electric system. Charlie figures that the IOC saves him at least one clerk a month during busy seasons.

Small Farmers Help Themselves

A group of small farmers in the Mount Croghan section of South Carolina, working cooperatively, began last spring a movement to make poultry a source of steady reliable cash income, reports County Agent J. C. Willis. With the income from cotton, the only cash crop of the section, declining noticeably, these farmers want cash from other sources.

With the aid of the county agent and the Extension Service poultry specialists, the Mount Croghan farmers held a series of meetings last February to arouse interest and present information about poultry production. Then eight farmers agreed to get 100 to 175 baby chicks—all White Leghorns, in the spring.

By November the pullets raised were coming into fair egg production, and so a method of marketing was worked out. A cooperative agreement was made with an experienced producer of eggs for distribution of the Mount Croghan eggs on the nearby Charlotte market.

U. A. Funderburk, experienced Chesterfield County poultry farmer, who already had an established market in Charlotte, was engaged to collect the eggs from these Mount Croghan farmers, transport, and sell them, at a service charge of 1 cent per dozen. By November the sales were running to 210 dozen a week, and there is good reason to believe that the farmers of this area have established by group action another reliable and profitable source of cash.

■ 4-H Club members of Nicholas County, Ky., produced crops, livestock, and other commodities valued at \$10,938 in 1940. The largest income—\$8,115—was from tobacco, with poultry second, and beef cattle third.

Pictures County 4-H Activities

GEORGE ALLEN, County Club Agent, Windsor County, Vt.

■ A silent 16-millimeter moving picture is helping to tell the story of 4-H Club work in Windsor County, Vt. The movie presents a complete picture of county 4-H Club activities for 1940 and makes the many people who have seen it realize just what club work is doing.

The idea took root back in the summer of 1939 when a friend gave a 16-millimeter silent moving picture projector to the 4-H Clubs in Windsor and Orange Counties. A moving picture camera was needed, and we thought of the 4-H Club fund which we were saving for 4-H Club promotion work. This fund was built up from receipts from food booths at field days and prizes for county exhibits. The fund proved sufficient and the camera was bought.

Several county 4-H Club events were pictured in 1939 to try out the new camera. Some small reels were taken in black and white and others were taken in color. These were shown throughout the county during the fall and winter. The colored pictures received so much favorable comment that we decided to specialize on color pictures. Only about 30 feet of this film, costing \$1.89, has been discarded because of duplication.

Approximately 640 feet of film has now been taken to represent all the county and State activities of Windsor County 4-H Club members and leaders during this past year. All the pictures taken this year have been included in the movie except for 10 to 15 feet taken out during the editing and splicing. County "days" in the major projects, county camp, State 4-H week, the State 4-H dairy judging contest, county demonstrations, State 4-H homemaking day, the Hartland Fair, round-up, and home visits have been pictured.

The picture is built around personalities and activities in Windsor County 4-H Club work, and connected scenes are included so that the film does not become monotonous. Such scenes as meeting places, a boat ride taken during State 4-H week, and scenes at county camp bring pictures of nature to the screen which interest all.

The only equipment purchased were the camera, several 400-foot reels, 650 feet of film, and a 90-cent splicing outfit. Title scenes of road signs, camp signs, a 4-H banner, and 4-H display board signs, are used to label different sections. The expense for this work seems small compared to the use which has been made of the pictures. The agent's annual report of club work was given in connection with the showing of the picture at the annual County Farm Bureau meeting last fall.

Some of the pictures were shown in 15 different communities throughout the county at combined 4-H achievement programs.

Those attending the annual county 4-H round-up last year knew that the pictures taken there would be reviewed this fall, and so were anxious to attend. From the parade pictures, members and leaders were able to get ideas about dressing up the round-up parade, which were used effectively in this year's parade. Just before the round-up a service club which gave cash awards for the



4-H parade learned more about club work through the movies shown at one of their weekly luncheons.

Pictures on dairy judging and showmanship have been used to give dairy members pointers on these two subjects. As the projector is built so that the moving pictures can be stopped on an individual picture, a discussion of any one picture can be held in connection with the showing. This is particularly useful in dress revue pictures.

The picture will be used to interest new members, leaders, and parents in club work throughout the county in 1941. It will also be shown whenever there is a chance to spread the word of club work.

Department Personnel Changes

Milton S. Eisenhower has received the permanent appointment as Land Use Coordinator of the Department of Agriculture.

In July 1937, Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace assigned Mr. Eisenhower to set up the Office of Land Use Coordination while continuing to serve as Director of Information, a post he had held since December 1928.

The office was set up at the request of the heads of all the land-use agencies of the Department—the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Soil Conservation Service, the Farm Security Administration, and the Forest Service. A staff agency, its function is to assist the Secretary in directing toward common goals the work of all these and other Department agencies which deal with land use and in correlating the land use work of the Department with that of other Government agencies. The head of this office, the Land Use Coordinator, serves as chairman of the Department's Program Board and as a member of the Administrative Council of the Department.

Mr. Eisenhower has been in the Department service for nearly 15 years. He joined the staff of the Office of Information early in 1926 and later in the same year he became assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture. In 1928 he was made Director of Information. He is a native of Kansas, a graduate of the Kansas State College of Agriculture. He has worked on newspapers in his native State, and before coming into the Department of Agriculture was in the United States Foreign Service as vice consul at Edinburgh, Scotland.

Morse Salisbury succeeds Milton S. Eisenhower as Director of Information for the Department of Agriculture.

The appointment promotes Mr. Salisbury from the post of associate director of information, which he has held since December 1938. Previously he had served for nearly 10 years as chief of radio service for the Department. He took the radio job in February 1928.

The new Director of Information was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, and was reared at El Dorado, Kans. He is a graduate of the Kansas State Agricultural College. He worked on newspapers in Kansas, was a member of the journalism staff of his alma mater, and at the time of his appointment to the Department was manager of the University Press Bureau and instructor in journalism at the University of Wisconsin.

4-H Game Reserve

A Kansas game reserve of 1,920 acres is the conservation project of a Harvey County 4-H Club, the Highland Healthy Happy Hooligans. The project was developed during the summer of 1940 under the leadership of Eldon Goering, who became interested in the idea as a result of discussions which he heard at the annual 4-H Club round-up at Kansas State College. The club members found landowners in the area to be most cooperative and succeeded in getting three full sections signed up as a game reserve area, including 10 acres of wooded land along a creek. Thirty "no hunting" signs have been posted by the club, and eight large signs have been erected informing the public that the area is a managed game reserve.

They Say Today

The American Tradition

■ No matter who wins this war, I have the belief that when the war comes to an end there will be more light and hope on this hemisphere than anywhere else on this troubled earth. In nearly all of the New World, population pressure on natural resources is far less than in any other large area and the economic after effects of the war will almost certainly be less. If we in the United States are to be safe in this favored position, it is exceedingly important that we should be better informed concerning the history and culture of the 20 Latin American republics. In studying the 18 Spanish-speaking republics, it is important to remember that their culture is no more Spanish than the culture of the United States is English. True it is that many of our customs are English and many of their customs are Spanish, but we are both drawn together by the American belief in a democratic progressive future which is based in considerable measure on the fact that we both have tremendous natural resources and a rather small population. None of the countries of Latin America intends to see these resources drained off to Europe or Asia in a way which harms our future. The great liberators of Latin America got their ideas about the rights of man from the United States and from France. The Latin-American and English-speaking American traditions can be united in the name of America if we in the United States will give as much time and effort to understanding Latin America as the Latin Americans are giving to the understanding of the United States. If we do not do our part, the day may easily come when in Latin America we shall be faced with many types of hyphenated Americans who will feel that their primary allegiance is to one or another of the various dictatorships overseas. The magnetic current of American good will, good trade, understanding, culture, language, and travel should run more largely North and South rather than East and West.—Henry A. Wallace in address, Bennington College, Bennington, Vt., June 15, 1940.

A Plan of Action

It is increasingly clear that we are going to get nowhere with Latin America by mere good-will tours and talk of friendship. The countries to the south of us are all grappling with a desperate situation. It is a problem we are facing right here. The question is:

What is to be done with an ever-growing agricultural surplus while the world markets are blockaded, perhaps for years?

Latin America has lived chiefly and has occasionally prospered on the sale of its agricultural produce. Now bumper crops have been accompanied by paralysis of markets. The European markets would not be so

severely missed if Latin America could turn to its Good Neighbor and sell a portion of its crops.

We have fixed it so that such a trade is practically impossible. Tariffs bar the way to the beef, the corn, the wheat, and the wool with which they might pay their bills. Indeed, in the eyes of Argentina we have added insult to injury by barring certain classes of her beef completely as tainted with disease.

Clearly it is a complex problem—much too complex to be treated in detail here. With an enormous wheat surplus of our own (some authorities say 300,000,000 bushels by next year) we can have no possible use for Argentina's 1940 surplus of 67,000,000 bushels. Nor can we buy from Brazil the surplus coffee that Europe is no longer buying. Nor with a 7,000,000 bale surplus of cotton can we use any of the annual crop of Argentina and Peru of nearly 3 million bales.

What then, as a Good Neighbor, are we going to do to help these nations in their plight?

Thoughtful minds have offered a number of suggestions. Some are highly technical; some are plans for years to come; none, so far, point to a magic solution. A few are:

To form a cartel, or strong trade agreement, with all the Americas, whereby all trade is controlled and shared according to each nation's long-time average.

Immediate development in Latin America of industries based on local resources financed by government loans.

Surveys by American experts to locate and develop minerals and crops now obtained in Asia or elsewhere.

Subsidy of a program in the United States to use up our own surplus food in feeding the so-called hungry one-third of the Nation. This would open our gates to Latin American produce without harming our farmers.

The question is one that will have to be answered in some fashion or other in a very short while. Pan-American solidarity can mean little to countries facing ruin.—*Defense Papers, Number Two, issued by the American Association for Adult Education, 60 East Forty-Second Street, New York, N. Y.*

4-H at the White House

On my return to the White House, I was happy to meet with a group from the Agriculture Department, headed by Gertrude Warren of the Federal Extension Service. She brought two young 4-H Club people who have won scholarships to spend the winter in Washington, and several other people who work in the Department on 4-H Club programs.

I was impressed by their seven-point defense program. It is important, I think, for us all to realize we cannot all be doing spectacular emergency work and that for

many of us our best defense work is to do the jobs that we have been doing better than we have ever done them before. The health program carried on by the 4-H Clubs interests me particularly, and I think can be developed to meet any of the needs which are uncovered by the Army and Navy doctors in their examinations of our boys.—Mrs. Roosevelt, in her column, *My Day*. *Washington News, Thursday, January 9, 1941.*

Research Needed

Research as to which farm products we may purchase from Latin-American countries without detriment to our own economy may indirectly increase the outlets for the farm products of this country. In 1939 we imported from Latin America approximately \$196,000,000 of agricultural products that do not compete with farm crops of this country and \$185,000,000 of competitive or supplementary farm products. Through research we may reduce the amounts of the competing products and increase the amounts of the noncompeting products so that these countries in turn may gear their economy with that of the United States to mutual advantage. In that way we may approach an economic organization which must be the basis of any real solidarity among the various countries composing the Western Hemisphere. It is especially through research that we hope to clarify a program for the interchange of farm products with our Latin-American neighbors. Defense is the uppermost public interest in this hemisphere today. Hemispheric defense and policy mean inevitably the exchange of products among the countries of this hemisphere.—D. W. Watkins, director of extension, South Carolina, in a talk at State Extension Conference, Athens, Ga., Wednesday, December 11, 1940.

Negroes Learn Carpentry

During the past 50 years, Tuskegee Institute has been holding short courses for Negro farmers, rural preachers, extension agents, cooks, and midwives; but not until December 1940, did Tuskegee, in cooperation with the Alabama Extension Service, offer a course for rural Negro carpenters. Forty of these farmer-carpenters and builders—28 from Alabama, and the remainder from Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina—came to Tuskegee and enrolled for a week's intensive training in blueprint reading, structural foundations, framing, chimney building, interior and exterior carpentry, roofing, painting, practical estimating, and selecting materials.

These carpenters will return to their several communities and assist the county agents in organizing local demonstration housing schools which will be followed up by the extension agricultural engineers, so that eventually the self-help idea of home improvement will reach the remotest rural areas.

A Better Story

In reading the November 1940 issue of the *EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW*, I find an article relative to the planting of 40,000 pounds of Austrian winter peas by farmers in Greene County, N. C.

As a possible news item in a future issue of the *EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW*, I wish to report that farmers in Houston County, Tex., seeded 60,000 pounds of Austrian winter peas and used 280,000 pounds of 48 percent superphosphate this fall under provisions of the grant-of-aid plan of the AAA. This is the first large-scale use of winter legumes in this county, and our use of soil improving materials is in excess of that used by any other east Texas county. Insofar as we have been able to discover, there were no plantings of Austrian winter peas in the county during the preceding year. All this work was cooperatively handled by the county agent and AAA. The Austrian winter peas were inoculated and seeded in accordance with extension procedure.—*E. B. McLeroy, county agent, Crockett, Tex.*

My Eye Cue

I read with a great deal of interest the December issue of the *EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW*. This issue, you will remember, emphasized visual aids and, as Editor Schlup put it, "How Is Your Eye Cue?" As extension agent of McCook County, I have made good use of visual aids; and I think you may be interested in my experience.

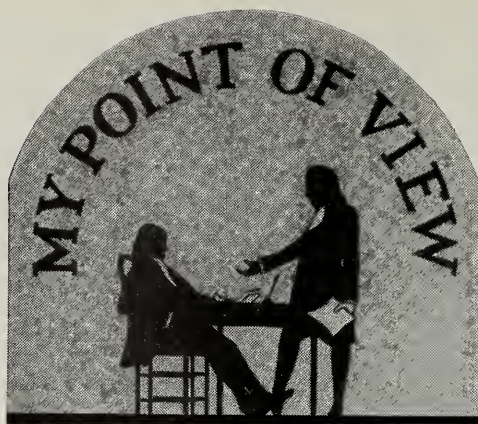
First, I started in my office. My office room is 20 by 24 feet, with a 9-foot wall, and is well lighted. The south wall has 124 different Government bulletins on display, and two plywood panels 5 by 4 feet, with display of sheaves of grain such as flax, barley, oats, wheat, and forage crops. There are 25 or more very carefully made sheaves, correctly named. (Most of them were made for the State Fair.)

On the north wall is another plywood sheet on which 13 varieties of sorghums are mounted as taken from a test plot. Each variety was cut off next to the ground and shows actual height. Next to the sorghum is a folded "bed sheet" on which 17 different grasses are displayed. A soils map of the county is also on the wall.

The office files are near the east wall; on the wall also, are mounts of weeds, and a panel with interesting pictures taken over the county.

It is interesting to observe farmers look over these different exhibits. One farmer remarked "This is one of the best things you ever did," pointing to the display of grasses. "I never knew what blue grama grass, brome grass, or crested wheat grass looks like." Another farmer says, "So that's what Colby Milo looks like," and so it goes.

I do not have an expensive camera—only



This is a place where agents are invited to express their ideas and opinions about anything which seems important to them. Those things which please, bother, or help one agent in his work are just the things which prove valuable to other agents.

a common 116, box size. But the pictures are usually clear and plain. I take it with me on most field calls. I like action shots, or pictures that tell a story: Take a picture of a 4-H Club boy when he is starting his baby beef project; 11 months later, take a picture of the same boy and his calf.

I was driving along the road one day with our State visual education specialist when I noticed a patch of creeping Jennie blossoming in a cornfield. The farmer had planted through the patch, and the corn in the creepers stood only a few inches high. Outside this area it was knee high. A picture of that told a wonderful story.

We had one of the best series of educational meetings last year in connection with the agricultural adjustment program. We held the meetings in theaters and had several reels of educational pictures—Salt of the Earth, Muddy Waters, Spring Shows and Beef Cattle, and some others. If we could have had local pictures the farmers would have liked it still better.

A camera can be used to wonderful advantage in 4-H Club work. Pictures taken on tours, at meetings, or on project visitations always tell a good story if you are careful in your selection and setting up your picture: For instance, a group of 4-H boys in a sheep club blocking a lamb for Achievement Day, or a snapshot of a group of 4-H boys and girls planting trees is good. My motto is: "Have them doing something." Good pictures make it easy to write your annual report. By taking good pictures of your various projects during the entire year you can build your story or explanation around that picture. My annual report resembles a popular pictorial magazine. I find myself often using my "pictorial report" on office calls. Farmer Brown comes in to

discuss weeds, trees, livestock, crops, or almost any project, and I have a picture or two that will tell the story fairly well.

So that's my "eye cue." Regardless of where it stands, I have received a great deal of benefit from my visual aids, and I am going to improve and increase them in 1941.—*J. Ervin Boyd, County extension agent, McCook County, S. Dak.*

Open Letter to County Agents

Your annual report for 1940 has been written and sent in. Such a relief! I know, for I have written 13 of them. . . .

Let's review . . . the document and see just what it represents. Does it serve the purpose for which it was intended? Between its covers it should . . . contain a record of all test work carried on, it should show an increase or decrease in the crop acreage and yields for the year, and it should show just where you are going in the county in making it the kind of a place where people may live and work and have their being. That is the idea you were all working on—for if you weren't you wouldn't be in the county.

If the annual report was written for any other purpose than the above then you have failed in making a proper record of the results . . . If you wrote it for the United States Department, you failed to hit the mark; if you wrote it for the State office, you were out before you got to first; but, if you wrote it for yourself and for the agent that follows you, then you not only bid, but you made a grand slam.

Your annual report can be and should be a constant source of information for you throughout the year. However . . . when you are thinking of and writing your program for another year, a careful analysis of the truths between those covers can tell you whether you are on the main road, or just traveling along the detours.

If you are in one of those counties using the problem approach in writing your program, it should give you a great deal of background material. To the rest of you, a lot of food for thought.—*Ralph D. Mercer, Montana extension agronomist, in the December 1940 Clipper.*

■ Panel and group discussions were featured at five regional farm bureau meetings in West Virginia. They were in charge of two farm men, two farm women, a county agricultural agent, a home demonstration agent, and the Agricultural Extension Service supervisor for the part of the State in which the meeting was held. The subject for discussion was What has, and can, a strong farm bureau program do to further improve the economic, educational, and social interests of the farm families in this region? General discussions by the entire audience followed the panels.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ **ELTA MAJORS** has been appointed extension specialist in child care and family life in Alabama. Formerly home demonstration agent in Escambia County, Ala., she left the Extension Service to teach 2 years at Winthrop College, South Carolina, returning to Alabama as home demonstration agent in Dallas County, where she remained until her present appointment.

■ **MARGARET BRUMBY**, home demonstration agent in Mississippi for the past 11 years, has been appointed Louisiana clothing and house furnishings specialist. She began her new duties January 1. Miss Brumby is a graduate of Texas State College for Women and received her master's degree from the same institution. She has also done special work at the University of Tennessee and at Oxford, Ohio, devoting her efforts in the field of clothing and home furnishings.

■ **MRS. KNOX AUSTIN**, of Vicksburg, a member of the Warren County Home Demonstration Council, won first place in the public-speaking contest for women at the annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Baltimore.

■ **MILDRED M. READ**, formerly associate leader of girls' 4-H Club work in Illinois, has been appointed West Virginia's 4-H girls' club agent to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Gladys Scranage Meadows. As an Illinois farm girl, Miss Read took an active part in 4-H Club activities. She received B. S. and M. S. degrees at the University of Illinois. Her new duties started Januray 1.

ON THE CALENDAR

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association 65th Annual Convention, San Antonio, Tex., March 18-20.

Western Arts Convention, Chicago, Ill., Theme—Humanizing the Arts for Service in Contemporary Life, March 19-23.

National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D. C., June 18-25.

American Home Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Ill., June 22-26.

American Association of Agricultural College Editors, Kingston, R. I., July 13-19.

Regional Conferences on Adult Education and Defense: Pasadena, Calif., March 20-22; Austin, Tex., March 27-29; Stillwater, Okla., April 3-5; Spokane, Wash., April 8-10; Minneapolis, Minn., April 17-19; Albany, N. Y., April 24-26; Norris, Tenn., April 27-29.

Two Pioneers Celebrate Anniversary

With a brief, informal party following the regular staff conference on November 1, 1940, members of the Washington State Extension Service staff honored Agronomist Leonard E. Hegnauer and Assistant Economist R. N. Miller, who completed 25 and 26 years, respectively, in the service on that day.

Tales of the days when extension was young and expressions of satisfaction with a lifetime spent in working with farmers were related by Hegnauer and Miller in short talks before fellow workers. Both declared they had little intention of remaining in extension work when they started but found their work so engrossing they "simply hadn't time to quit."



Leonard E. Hegnauer and R. N. Miller

Mr. Miller first became associated with the United States Department of Agriculture on September 15, 1914, in Oklahoma, but was transferred to the Washington Extension Service on November 1 of that same year. Born in Missouri, Mr. Miller came to Washington early in life and received his education in the State, graduating from Washington State College in 1908 and taking his master's degree from the same institution in 1914.

Mr. Hegnauer, also a native of Missouri, attended the University of Missouri for a time, later receiving degrees from both the University of Kansas and the University of Illinois. In 1910 he became associated with the agronomy department of Washington State College, went to the University of Illinois as an instructor in agronomy in 1911, but returned to Washington as extension agronomist in 1915.

Throughout the State of Washington Mr. Miller is well known for his promotion of land clearing, irrigation, and farm refrigeration programs. Through his work in recent years the State has assumed a position of leadership in the development of farm refrigeration plants. Mr. Hegnauer has been prominently associated with the introduction of alfalfa into the coastal areas of western Washington and is also widely known for his work in seed accreditation programs for wheat, barley and oats, and more recently with grasses and legumes.

■ **EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IN-SERVICE TRAINING** are being given added emphasis in the Federal Extension Service by the establishment of a new Division of Field Studies and Training to take the place of the former Surveys and Reports Section of the Division of Field Coordination. The major functions of the new division are developing plans, in cooperation with the States, for training workers, analyzing the annual State and county extension reports, and conducting educational research in the field of extension.

"The value of research in extension methods and training of personnel takes on added importance in the light of rapidly changing conditions and the critical issues which face the Extension Service today," said Director Wilson in announcing the establishment of the new division. Meredith C. Wilson will be in charge of the division, assisted by Gladys Gallup specializing in home demonstration activities; Barnard Joy, working on 4-H and older youth problems; Dr. F. P. Frutchey, working in the field of educational tests and measurements; Lucinda Crile, working on educational research bibliographies and special studies; and Dr. E. H. Shinn, specializing in Negro extension methods and certain phases of 4-H Club work.

Doors Are Bulletin Boards

Two doors in the office of Vera Hub, home demonstration agent, Polk County, Wis., have become bulletin boards. Home demonstration pictures decorate one door and 4-H pictures the other one. These greet the eye of all visitors stepping into the outer office.

■ Missouri extension agents exhibited more than 250 black-and-white photographs at their annual extension conference, 75 of which were chosen as ribbon winners.

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